### Sale of Spoiled Wheat

3600. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MEHTA : Will the Minister of FOOD be pleased to state :

(a) whether nearly 90 thousand metric tonnes of wheat worth Rs. 48 crore has been stored on Surendranagar-Bayana Road in Gujarat in open ground since July, 1995 without proper protection by the Food Corporation of India;

(b) whether such spoiled stock is being sold in open market by FCI; and

(c) the reasons for storage in such a manner and sale of spoiled wheat in the open market?

THE MINISTER OF FOOD AND MINISTER OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION (SHRI DEVENDRA PRASAD YADAV) : (a) It has been reported by Food Corporation of India (FCI) that a quantity of 92,413 metric tonnes wheat was stored in CAP storage (Cover and Plinth) at Dudhrej (Surendranagar) as on 31.5.96 with proper protection by use of cement concrete blocks and bamboo mats as dunnage covered with polythene covers and lashed properly. It is further reported that receipt of wheat at this centre started from Oct. 95 only and not July, 95.

(b) and (c). It is reported that stock of wheat stored at Dudhrej CAP storage faced severe cyclonic storms accompanied by rain during June, 96. The stocks were inspected by Senior Quality Control Officer after cyclone and as per the report bulk of the stock was found in good condition except some damage to bottom layer bags and partial damage, these were segregated and only sound stock of wheat conforming to PFA standard was issued in the open market after due certification of quality by Quality Control Officers of the FCI.

Due to lack of covered storage space to the required extent, open storage was resorted to in Gujarat. The wheat stocks moved from Punjab and Haryana was stored at open hired space in Dudhrej being a nodal point in Saurashtra for export/open sale.

### Tests on Animals

3601. SHRI BIJOY KRISHNA HANDIQUE : Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government contemplate to do away with the cruel practice of conducting tests on live animals on the part of the manufacturing companies to ascertain the harmful effects of the cosmetics and toiletries;

(b) if so, the time by which the decision is likely to be taken to ban such tests;

(c) whether the Government also propose to urge the manufacturers to evolve some humane non-animal tests; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (CAPT. JAI NARAYAN PRASAD NISHAD) : (a) The Committee for the Purpose of Control and Supervision of Experiment on Animals proposed in its 7th meeting dated 2nd August, 1996 that the items of cosmetic and toiletries falling under Schedule 'S' of the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules for which testing is mandatory, should be rescheduled and the choice may be left to the manufacturers to test or not to test the products on animals. The products not tested on animals should display the statement "Not tested on animals". The Bureau of Indian Standards in its 7th meeting of the Cosmetics Sectional Committee held on 11th September, 1996 unanimously decided that if proper control was exercised on the choice of the ingredients as well as the formulations employed which have already been tried in the past, it may not be necessary to carry out safety evaluation on animals and the choice is left to the manufacturer. However, in the case of novel ingredients/product formulation it would be necessary for the manufacturer to carry out the testing as stipulated under the rules. The Bureau has also left the choice regarding display of the expression "Not tested on animals" to the manufacturers.

(b) These decisions of the Bureau of Indian Standards shall become operative as and when published by them.

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise.

*[Translation]*

### Vyapari Bhi I.S.I. Kee Muthi Mein

3602. SHRI BRAHAMANAND MANDAL : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether the attention of the Government has been drawn to the News-item captioned "Vyapari Bhi I.S.I. Kee Muthi Mein", appearing in 'Jansatta', dated November 17, 1996; and

(b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI MOHD. MAQBOOL DAR) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. The various steps taken by the Delhi Police to curb terrorist and espionage activities include: (a) close coordination with the Central and State Intelligence agencies; (b) checking of suspected guest houses/hide-outs; (c) educating the public through the electronic media and otherwise to be on look out for any suspected persons; (d) verification of new tenants; (e) watch on foreign tourist camps etc; and (f) close vigil at border check posts.